TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 5, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 31 totaled 353,882, up 1.9 percent from the comparable week of 1989 and 2.8 percent above the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 3.9 percent in the West and 0.3 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings rose by 8,967 cars (7.2 percent). Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment increased by 1,650 cars (8.8 percent). Grain loadings fell by 2,707 cars (8.4 percent), and metallic ores were down by 2,071 cars (10.8 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 13 weeks of 1990 totaled 4,366,277, up 1.1 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 121,058 trailers and/or containers for the week ended March 31, up 5.1 percent from the comparable week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 13 weeks of 1990 was 1,513,407 trailers and/or containers, 4.1 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended March 31 totaled 20.4 billion, up 3.0 percent from the comparable week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 13 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 253.3 billion ton-miles, up 1.6 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 31, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MARCH 31, 1990	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	29,482	32,189	-8.4 %	28,706	2.7 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,784	1,762	1.2	1,721	3.7
Metallic Ores	17,157	19,228	-10.8	15,732	9.1
Coal	133,120	124,153	7 2	133,506	-.3
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	15,238	14,221	7.2	14,366	6.1
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,129	9,838	3.0	9,280	9.1
Grain Mill Products	10,439	9,550	9.3	10,803	-3.4
Food & Kindred Products	8,955	8,568	4.5	8,988	-.4
Primary Forest Products	10,331	10,669	-3.2	9,910	4.2
Lumber & Wood Products	7,886	7,867	.2	6,726	17.2
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	11,505	12,105	-5.0	10,319	11.5
Chemicals	30,113	30,367	-.8	28,958	4.0
Petroleum Products	5,184	5,578	-7.1	5,226	-.8
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,554	10,133	4.2	10,163	3.8
Coke	5,991	5,547	8.0	5,674	5.6
Metals & Products	10,887	11,035	-1.3	10,017	8.7
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	20,366	18,716	8.8	19,478	4.6
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,391	8,896	-5.7	8,459	-.8
All Other Carloads	6,370	6,762	-5.8	6,325	.7
Total	353,882	347,184	1.9 %	344,357	2.8 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MARCH 31, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 13 WEEKS ENDING MARCH 31, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	353,882	347,184	1.9 %	4,366,277	4,319,794	1.1 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	70,373	67,864	3.7	856,911	843,906	1.5
Containers	50,685	47,337	7.1	656,496	609,976	7.6
Total	121,058	115,201	5.1	1,513,407	1,453,882	4.1
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	20.4	19.8	3.0 %	253.3	249.2	1.6 %

NOTES: Effective with Week 13, Southern Pacific figures include the SSW and DRGW. SP's traffic for prior weeks is the sum of SP's, SSW's and DRGW's traffic. Traffic interchanged among these roads prior to Week 13 has not been excluded from "received" traffic.

Carloadings are estimated for: Week 13, 1990 - CIM.